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Bangalore Mirror

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TOWER TROUBLE

Mobile tower in residential layout has caused much worry after families complain of health issues due to frequent upgrades

PAGE 3

PLOT THICKENS

Revenue Dept launches crackdown on unauthorised layouts formed with no regard to norms, to take action against errant officials

PAGE 6

Broken footpaths aside, when even zebra crossings are filled with potholes, state of pedestrians' safety in city seems to be laid bare — commuters want authorities to conduct periodic inspections

STOP. WALK. FALL...

Many junctions do not have zebra crossings at all

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Faded zebra crossings are a familiar sight in the city due to the reasons best known to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Traffic Police. One of the reasons for zebra crossings fading is the quality of the paint used. But, have you ever come across a zebra crossing filled with potholes? If not, visit Trinity Circle on MG Road.

The zebra crossing on the entry Old Madras Road towards Gurudwara has more than 15 potholes, that is not only causing inconvenience to motorists, but posing a real danger to pedestrians, especially senior citizens.

It is not the only zebra crossing in the city that has potholes. There is nothing to celebrate the condition of the zebra crossing at Halasuru Road Junction. Pedestrians have to take extra care while walking on this crossing. It is same with zebra crossing at the entry of Gangadhar Chetty Road near Gurudwara. Auto rickshaw drivers and pedestrians urged the BBMP authorities and the traffic police to fix the problem.

Wondering why the authorities failed to fill up potholes despite repeated directions from the BBMP Chief Commissioner, Padmanabhan N, an auto rickshaw driver, demanded that authorities inspect the traffic junctions and ensure

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"Who is accountable for ensuring our streets are safe for women, children, and the elderly? It's time to demand better infrastructure and stricter enforcement to protect the most vulnerable road users

—Poornima Shetty, social innovator

It doesn't add up

Lack of internal audits in Karnataka Forest Dept raises eyebrows

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The Karnataka Forest Department's (KFD) poor report card on annual internal audits has triggered a wave of concern among wildlife conservationists and activists.

According to the official data, the Department has conducted an internal audit of only 20% of the offices this year. While 169 offices were to be audited during 2024-25, only 36 have undergone the process. It is also worse than last year's record.

PAGE 5: NOT ENOUGH HANDS

In 2023-24, KFD inspected 72 out of 170 offices that were to be audited.

The Audit Section of the Administration & Co-ordination (A&C) Wing of KFD is responsible for conducting internal audits and overseeing follow-up actions based on the audit findings.

"Lack of internal audit implies lack of accountability, efficiency, and transparency, leading to lapses. Internal audits are important to ensure regulatory compliance in every office. It is a process conducted by the head office to assess the effectiveness of ongoing activities and suggest improvements, if any," said a wildlife conservationist.

Experts say internal audits allow the head office to oversee whether the resources are being used economically and wisely. Inadequacy in this process may lead to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Play time

Ranga Shankara is hosting a landmark devised theatre production 'To Be or Not To Be', directed by Ranji David. Inspired by Shakespeare's iconic Hamlet soliloquy, the play transforms the timeless question of existence into a visceral, visual experience that explores some of society's deepest wounds. **Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; When: August 14, 7.30 pm**

02 Artisan odyssey

Karigar Bazaar is bringing a rare confluence of heritage, craftsmanship, and storytelling with its most immersive edition yet, hosting over 140 master artisans from across the country—each carrying the soul of a tradition, the strength of a lineage, and the beauty of the handmade. **Where: Jayamahal Palace; When: August 9 to 17**

03 Melody lane

KS Chitra, renowned for her soulful voice, is set to take the stage and mesmerise the audience with her timeless melodies. **Where: JK Grand Arena, Kengeri; When: August 16, 6 pm**

04 Light fest

Shades of Green is presenting 'Songs of Nature', a special curation of lighting designs by Oorjaa, a conscious design studio renowned for transforming natural waste into luminous works of art. The immersive showcase highlights iconic pieces alongside a new collection inspired by the quiet intelligence of the natural world. **Where: Sabha, Kamaraj Road; When: August 8 to 13, 11 am to 7 pm**

05 Game on

Nexus Shantiniketan Mall is presenting 'Thrillscape', the ultimate immersive digital adventure zone, crafted with next-gen technologies blurring the line between reality and the digital realm to offer a futuristic entertainment experience. **Where: Nexus Shantiniketan Mall; When: Until August 31, 12 pm to 9 pm**

Jumbo attack: Wildlife Act charges invoked

Forest Department officials say man involved in elephant trampling case faces charges under Wildlife (Protection) Act; rising number of incidents prompt calls for stricter action against culprits

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The incident took place on NH67 inside BTR when a commuter got out of his vehicle to photograph an elephant feeding on a bag of carrots

Following the elephant trampling incident in Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR) on August 10, the Bandipur administration is on the hunt for the man who got trampled. Officials from the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) say that once identified, the man will be booked under the Wildlife (Protection) Act (WLPA) for teasing and harassing a wild animal inside a tiger reserve.

The incident took place on NH67 inside BTR when a commuter got out of his vehicle to photograph an elephant feeding on a bag of carrots thrown out by vegetable traders to prevent the elephant from destroying all the vegetables being transported in a lorry. "The person has violated WLPA, and we will file an FIR after identifying him. He went too close to the animal, which amounts to teasing. This elephant has been feeding on vegetables for the last few months that are thrown by traders while passing by. We are suggesting traders not use this route for a few days so the elephant falls out of this habit," said S Prabhakaran, Conservator of Forest, Bandipur Tiger Reserve.

He added that signage has been installed along the highway and regular patrols are conducted. However, authorities are now considering increasing the number of patrolling staff on this route, particularly during weekends and festivals.

The Wildlife (Protection) Act prohibits teasing and harassment of wild animals. As per rules, no person shall tease, molest, injure, or feed any animal, cause disturbance to the animals by noise or otherwise, or litter the grounds. Additionally, the Indian Forest Act considers wild animals and parts as "forest produce" and an offence related to wild animals committed in reserved forests or protected forests is an offence under the Act.

Notably, the incidents of wildlife teasing and harassment in forest reserves and sanctuaries have been on the rise, and experts call for stringent punishment for offenders under WLPA. Earlier this year, a video of a man intentionally provoking and harassing a wild elephant in Bandipur Tiger Reserve was circulated widely on social media sites. Following the incident, KFD arrested the person and slapped a fine of Rs 25,000. On Sunday, the incident happened while the elephant was munching on carrots, and commuters stopped to watch the elephant eat. Many stepped out of their vehicles to click pictures.

Joseph Hoover, former State Board of Wildlife member and founder of the United Conservation Movement and Charitable Trust, noted that the incident occurred in close proximity to the Bandipur range forest office. "When the focus is on money, protection takes a backseat. The Government of Karnataka has to be a lot more proactive, especially in tourism-centric wildlife habitats. The department has been collecting the green tax from vehicles using the highway. This money should have been utilised in beefing up patrolling on the stretch," said Hoover.

VTU adopts flexible internship model

Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) has introduced a flexible SAIP Internship model, letting engineering students choose whether to undertake their internship in the 7th or 8th semester, instead of being restricted to the 8th. This aims to ease competition for limited slots in top companies and allow students to plan internships according to their convenience. From the 2025–26 academic year, the 7th semester will begin in early August and the 8th in January, with students required to register for internships in advance via the VTU website.

Internships can be in research, skill development, post-placement training, or online formats. Students must attend mandatory online classes during the internship and pass subsequent assessments. VTU will monitor participation to ensure academic quality while enabling around 45,000–70,000 final-year students to benefit annually. The move is expected to provide greater flexibility, reduce scheduling clashes, and allow students to benefit from diverse industry and research exposure. **— BMB**

Reach airport early

Kempegowda International Airport (BLR) has urged passengers to reach the airport early during the Independence Day week, citing an expected surge in travellers and heightened security measures. Authorities warned that passenger processing could take longer in August, and advised travellers to plan their journey with ample time for security checks. The advisory comes as the airport prepares for one of the busiest travel periods of the year, aiming to ensure smooth operations and minimise inconvenience for passengers. **— BMB**

VK Street Sambhrama spreads joy: Dr Arya

Praising the VK Street Sambhrama for creating a festive atmosphere in the heart of the city, Dr Samarth Arya, Consultant – Orthopaedics, Joint Replacement & Robotic Surgery at Manipal Hospital, Old Airport Road, lauded the initiative for fostering community bonding. "Living together in the same society, events like the VK Street festival give us an opportunity to mingle socially and celebrate. In villages, fairs strengthen relationships by fostering social harmony. However, such programmes are rare in cities. Vijay Karnataka has created a fair-like atmosphere in the city, spreading joy among the people," Dr Arya said. **— BMB**

No recruitment in medical colleges until reservation decision

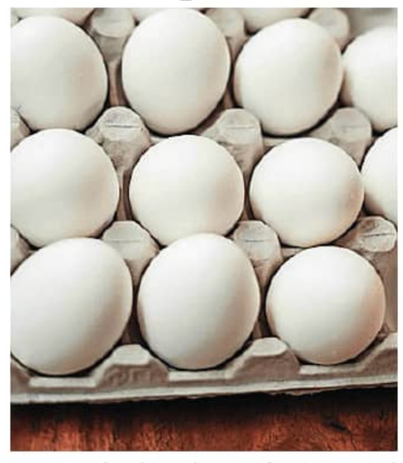
Recruitment to vacant posts in government medical colleges will be taken up only after the State finalises its decision on internal reservation, Medical Education Minister Dr Sharan Prakash Patil told the Legislative Council. Responding to a query from member Manjegowda, the minister said retired High Court judge HN Nagamohan Das has submitted a report on implementing internal reservation, which was discussed in last week's cabinet meeting. A final decision is expected in the upcoming special Cabinet session, and until then, the Chief Minister has directed all departments to halt recruitment. Of the 21,860 sanctioned posts in medical colleges, 9,413 are filled and 12,447 remain vacant. Dr

Patil said the vacancies have not affected teaching or patient care, as directors and hospital heads have been authorised to appoint staff on an outsourcing basis. Earlier shortages in Yadgir, Raichur, Kalaburagi and other colleges have been resolved, and no institution currently faces staffing issues, he assured, adding that any new problems will be addressed immediately. **— BMB**

Poultry demand drops 50%

In Bengaluru Rural district, poultry demand has declined by about 50 per cent during the Shravan month, causing significant challenges for poultry farmers. Despite this, egg prices have remained stable, with wholesale eggs selling at Rs 4 to Rs 4.50 each. The district produces around 7 lakh kg of chicken meat weekly, but demand has sharply fallen due to reduced consumer activity and increased production costs—chicken feed prices have risen from Rs 20-22/kg to Rs 30/kg, and overall production costs are Rs 90 to Rs 100 per kg of chicken.

Over 3,000 farmers rear thousands of chickens on farms, especially in Hoskote. While chicken meat prices hover around Rs 125 to Rs 185 per kg



in retail, the sluggish demand linked to the Shravan season and GST changes after COVID have hit the sector hard. Export opportunities exist from Devanahalli, where processed chicken meat is being readied for shipment, but current volumes to other states remain low. **— BMB**

Mobile tower casts shadow of gloom in residential area

MY VOICE BangaloreMirror

Residents of KSFC Layout complain of persistent health issues, which they believe is caused by frequent upgrades to tower. Can officials help?

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A looming danger has cast a cloud over the lives of residents of 3rd B Main Road in KSFC Layout for the past two decades. A mobile tower stands tall in their neighbourhood, which many say is a serious health hazard.Several homes are too close for comfort to this tower and they told us during our **My Voice, My Mirror** initiative on Sunday that despite repeated petitions to local authorities, the issue remains unresolved.

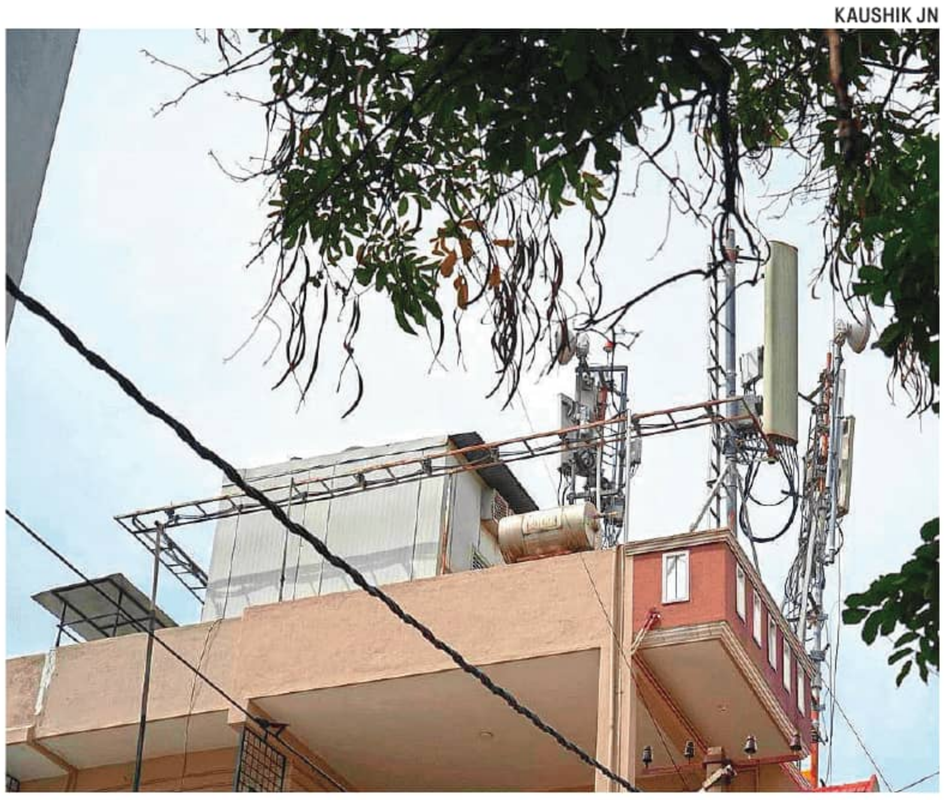
According to locals, the mobile tower was installed around 20 years ago, at a time when mobile telecommunication infrastructure was still in its early stages in the city.

While there were initial apprehensions, residents say they were reassured by promises that the tower met safety norms. However, over the years, as any work related to telecom gets upgraded and modified the equipment to support newer technologies, the frequency of maintenance and upgrades has increased along with alleged negative effects on the community's health.

"Whenever work is carried out on the tower, we feel the effects such as headaches and dizziness. Sleep disturbances have become common complaints.

The owner of the house stays somewhere else, and we have raised this issue with them, but it has been neglected," said Brinda, a resident who has lived on 3rd B Main Road for many years.

KAUSHIK JN



Several others echoed similar sentiments, claiming they have noticed a rise in chronic ailments in the locality over the past decade. " Earlier there were fewer houses, but now many more houses have come up and the area is crammed.

"We have not received any complaint from residents. If a complaint is submitted, we will investigate to determine whether the tower is legal or illegal.

"There is no space now. Whenever tower work goes on, we experience health issues due to the radiation," said a resident. Parents in the area are particularly worried about the potential long-term effects of continuous exposure to electromagnetic radiation. "We have children growing up here, and no one can assure us these emissions are completely safe.

We have asked for the tower to be relocated multiple times with the owner. The owner asks us to take it up legally. We have complained to the association and have tried going to the police station for legal action but they want the association members to give a complaint. We have given the complaint too, but there is no action till now," said Brinda.

Despite numerous letters, meetings with ward officials, and appeals to telecom service providers, residents allege that their complaints have either been ignored or met with vague assurances. A family consisting of four spoke to BM.

The father said, "My wife and I underwent heart surgeries in 2018 and 2019 because of this. Now, we are experiencing frequent headaches, and many senior citizens in the area are reporting the same. Even our children often complain of headaches. We are deeply worried about their future and the days ahead."

While several studies suggest that radiation levels from towers that comply with regulatory norms are safe, residents point to studies that suggest a correlation between residing near mobile towers and reported symptoms such as headaches, sleep disturbances, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, and dizziness.

When contacted, the BBMP Zonal Joint Commissioner told BM, "We have not received any complaint from residents. If a complaint is submitted, we will investigate to determine whether the tower is legal or illegal. If it is legal, then there is a problem, as only if they cancel it, can the tower be removed. Otherwise, we can only instruct them to reduce the frequency, but they may increase it again later without our knowledge."

Proposal to convert 2 colleges into constituent units

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Bengaluru City University (BCU) has submitted a proposal to the state government seeking to convert RC College and the Government Arts College into constituent colleges under its administration. While the Government Arts College has opposed the move citing concerns over pension security for existing teaching and non-teaching staff, RC College has welcomed the university's decision, terming it a progressive step towards academic development.

A Tale of Two Campuses

The Government Arts College boasts a spacious playground and dedicated buildings for students, whereas RC College lacks sports infrastructure. However, RC College is renowned for its excellence in commerce education. Students from across rural Bengaluru also attend both colleges, highlighting their regional importance. The university has sent its proposal to the government and is now awaiting the official gazette notification. Presently, BCU has only one constituent women's college located in Malleswaram. If RC and Arts colleges are brought under its ambit as constituent colleges, it could alleviate the current shortage of teaching staff and increase the student intake under BCU.

Sources said that this proposal is not new. During the trifurcation of Bangalore University, Prof. S. Japhet, then the founding Vice-Chancellor of BCU, had already submitted a similar proposal to the state government.

Key Takeaways

- Improved academic standards and quality
- Enhanced opportunities for research
- Academic autonomy for the colleges
- Greater recognition in the job market

No Sudden Fee Hike

There are concerns among students and parents that converting these institutions into constituent colleges may lead to a sudden hike in tuition fees. However, the Department of Higher Education has issued clear directives to BCU not to increase fees arbitrarily.

Currently, BCU charges ₹7,000 for its B.Com. course. In comparison, universities like Maharani Cluster University and Nrupatunga University have much higher fee structures. Still, as a general public university, BCU cannot be directly compared with these specialized clusters.

Prof. K.R. Jalaja, Acting Vice-Chancellor, BCU said, "We have passed a resolution in the Syndicate to convert both RC and Government Arts colleges into constituent colleges and sent it to the government for approval. Once approved, it will benefit both institutions."

IPS officer returns after controversy

After five months after being placed on compulsory leave over a gold smuggling controversy linked to his stepdaughter, senior IPS officer K Ramachandra Rao was reinstated on Monday as Director General of Police (DGP), Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement (DCRE).

Rao's stepdaughter, actress Ranya Rao (34), was arrested by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) on March 3, 2025, for allegedly smuggling 14.2 kg of foreign-origin gold worth ₹12.56 crore from Dubai. Investigations revealed she had allegedly misused police escorts to bypass customs checks at Kempegowda International Airport.

At the time of his leave, Rao was serving as Chairman and Managing Director of the Karnataka State Police Housing and Infrastructure Development Corporation. **BMB**

Midnight robbery at condiment store

In a brazen midnight robbery, two men were caught on CCTV breaking into a condiment store in Laggere and making away with valuables worth ₹3 lakh, along with cash and cigarette cartons.

The incident occurred at Chandu Sagar Condiment, owned by Lakshmi, who has been running the business for nearly eight years. According to police, the theft took place on August 2, when two Assamese men arrived at the store and loitered outside for nearly 10 minutes, apparently planning their move.

CCTV footage shows the duo breaking open the shop's shutter before swiftly collecting items and fleeing the scene. The stolen goods included expensive stock, cash from the counter, and several cigarette packets. Lakshmi lodged a complaint with the Rajagopalnagar police, who have launched a search for the suspects. **BMB**

Fin firm loses ₹47 cr to cyber fraud

A private finance company saw ₹47 crore vanish through invisible digital pathways traced to suspicious IP addresses originating outside India without their knowledge.

According to the complaint filed by the company's senior manager, the irregularities came to light on August 7, during a routine manual reconciliation process. The firm discovered that several unauthorised and suspicious transactions had been carried out on August 6 and 7 to multiple accounts.

The company immediately placed a debit freeze on its affected accounts and informed the bankers about the breach. A subsequent internal investigation revealed that the transactions were neither initiated from the company's systems nor from any of its whitelisted IP addresses. **BMB**

Communication gaps leave Hutchins Road in troubled water

Due to lack of coordination between Major Roads Dept, Storm Water Dept, area was waterlogged after Sunday night's heavy rain

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If the recurring flooding on Hutchins Road 6th Cross at Cooke Town in Sarvagna Nagar Assembly constituency is anything to go by, it seems there is no coordination between the Major Roads Department and Storm Water Drain Department (SWD). The lack of coordination and commitment has resulted in frequent floods on the stretch of the 6th Cross adjacent to Banaswadi Railway Station compound whenever it rains.

Residents on Hutchins Road and surrounding areas were very happy when the South Western Railway engineers removed silt from a storm water drain that passes through the railway land and cleared a garbage pile from the railway land. The residents thought they could walk on the road even when it rains without any hassles. However, their joy was short lived when the stretch was again flooded when rain lashed the city on Sunday night.

The flooding on 6th Cross of Hutchins Road

The residents complain that the BBMP Major Roads Department engineers failed to remove the silt from the roadside drain. "We are happy with railway authorities who not only removed silt from the storm water drain but also constructed the compound wall. The railway engineers agreed to make way at the compound wall for rain water to enter the drain. The BBMP engineers visited the spot 10 days ago and assured us to fix the problem but did nothing till date," said Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy, an advocate who resides on Hutchins Road.

Expressing concern over the recurring flooding on Hutchins Road 6th Cross, Albert R, founder-member of Cooke Town Residents Association, said the residents, especially pedestrians, have been suffering a lot to walk on this stretch whenever it rains heavily.

"I am saddened and shocked to come across recurring flooding of 6th Cross despite complaints and reminders to the authorities concerned by the residents. I thank the railway authorities for constructing the compound wall and removing silt from the storm water drain that passes through the railway land. They have done their duty efficiently. However, BBMP engineers of the storm water drain and major roads department have failed to fix the problem. We have appealed to BBMP Zonal Commissioner, Joint Commissioner, assistant executive engineer to ensure no flooding on the 6th Cross of Hutchins Road," said Albert.

Bangalore Mirror published a story – Recurring flooding drowns Hutchins Road in miseries – on June 9, narrating how the entire stretch along the railway compound wall on 6th Cross of Hutchins Road flooded whenever it rains heavily. It also highlighted how the dilapidated compound wall poses danger to the pedestrians.

Bangalore Mirror again published a story – Railways clear drain, rebuild wall – on July 18, 2025, narrating how the residents finally found some relief after years of grappling with flooding and poor drainage.

Meanwhile, BBMP executive engineer (storm water drain) Indrani said that the storm water drains department has nothing to do with the flooding on 6th Cross of Hutchins Road as there is no storm water drain there.

When informed, BBMP Assistant Engineer (Major Roads) Siddesh Yadav said that he visited the spot 10 days ago. "We were waiting for the railways to complete the construction of the compound wall. We will remove silt from the drain and ensure no flooding on the road," he said. Meanwhile, BBMP Executive Engineer (Major Roads) said that he would send his subordinate engineer to the spot on Monday.

Will the BBMP Major Roads Department fix the recurring flooding on Hutchins Road 6th Cross? The residents, who are tired of complaining, have to wait and watch.

Smooth Ganesh immersion plans unfold at Halasuru Lake

Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad leads coordination with BBMP, police, and residents to ensure safe, hassle-free Ganesh idol immersion at Halasuru Lake with improved facilities and crowd management

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Preparations for Ganesh idol immersion at Halasuru Lake began on Monday. Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad held a meeting with BBMP officials, police, volunteers, and residents to finalise arrangements. The discussion focused on ensuring smooth and hassle-free immersion of idols at the Kalyani, Halasuru Lake, with necessary measures in place for crowd management and safety.

"I want BBMP authorities and police to ensure Ganesh idol immersion happens smoothly without problems. No one bringing an idol should be turned away, regardless of timing. While BBMP should publish immersion timings, they must be lenient with those arriving after hours. Last year, 1.40 lakh Ganesh idols were immersed, and we expect even more this year," said Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad, urging coordination among officials, volunteers, and residents to manage the increased numbers and maintain order throughout the immersion process at Halasuru Lake's Kalyani without causing inconvenience to devotees or disrupting the event's flow. The MLA said that the BBMP Health Department has to take measures to keep an ambulance at the lake and put up banners at different locations to intimate the people who visit the lake for immersion of Ganesh idols. "Those who need medical care can avail the ambulance facility", the MLA said.

He said that immersion of Ganesh idols should be allowed without any restrictions. "I want the authorities to allow the immersion of Ganesh idols that were brought from other areas in Bengaluru and even from Kolar. It is our duty to help those people who bring Ganesh idols for immersion. I expect volunteers and residents of Halasuru and surrounding areas to help immersion of Ganesh idols without any problems", he said.

He has also directed Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) engineers to remove hanging cables to facilitate vehicles, carrying huge idols, move on the roads without any problems. Some of the residents and activists appealed to the MLA to construct one more idol immersion pond to avoid inconvenience to the people who bring Ganesh idols for immersion as the existing immersion pond cannot take the load of lakhs of idols. "I have been appealing to the authorities concerned to construct one more idol immersion pond, preferably at the eastern side of the lake, to facilitate immersion of Ganesh idols during the festival", said BR Chandran, a social activist from Halasuru. Krishnamurthy Gopi, a resident of Bharathinagar, has suggested declaring September 2 as a holiday for immersion of large Ganesh idols to enable cleaning of the immersion pond. He urged BBMP authorities to allow immersion of small idols on that day and to announce that big idols will not be immersed on September 2, ensuring smooth arrangements and timely cleaning.

Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad held a meeting with BBMP authorities, police, and residents at Halasur Lake on Monday

On the demand for construction of one more immersion pond, the MLA said that efforts will be made to construct one more immersion pond after availing permission from the competent authority. He has advised BBMP Zonal Commissioner (East) Snehal R to consider the closure of the pond for immersion of big idols on September 2 as suggested by the residents and volunteers.

The Zonal Commissioner has directed the contractor to have another crane standby at the lake to avoid inconvenience if the crane, engaged to lift big idols from vehicles for immersion, breaks down. Finally, the MLA advised the volunteers and the BBMP authorities, and police to ensure immersion of idols without any hurdles and inconvenience to the residents in the neighbourhood.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

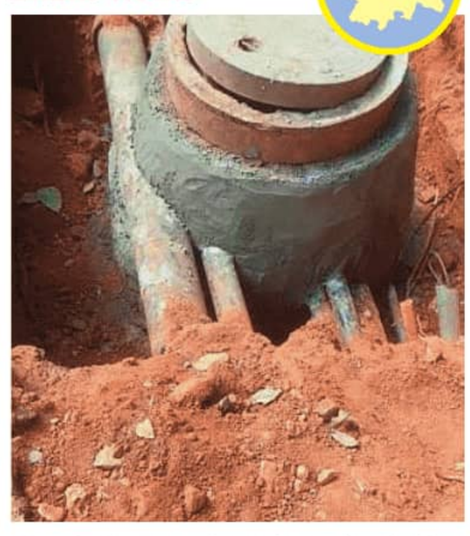
Garbage pile-up
Bull Temple Road

Garbage continues to be dumped in front of the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Bull Temple Road, Bengaluru – tarnishing the surroundings of the historic institution.

Open sewage
JP Nagar

An open sewage channel near Ganesha Temple, JP Nagar 7th Phase, has been left exposed for over six months, becoming a garbage pit and a safety hazard. Residents say the neglect invites accidents, especially after dark, while public apathy worsens the problem

Health hazard
Lazar Road


Water line runs through a newly built sanitary chamber on Lazar Road, opposite the Corporation shops — raising serious safety concerns as residents fear contamination of drinking water with sewage.

'Death Certificate changes not court's domain'

The Karnataka High Court has ruled that a civil suit seeking rectification of entries in a Death Certificate is not maintainable.

Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum stated, "There exists a clear bar under Section 9 of the CPC, as the nature of the relief falls exclusively within the domain of the Registrar under Section 15 of the 1969 Act (Registration of Births And Deaths Act)."

The petitioner, Suhas L, challenged an order from the trial court that dismissed his suit against the Chief Registrar, Births and Deaths. Suhas had sought a directive to substitute his mother's name to Mallika BV in the Death Certificate and to declare Mallika BV as the lawful wife of Lokesh HP. The trial court dismissed the suit, finding that the plaintiff had not discharged the burden of proof.

The respondents argued that the suit was not maintainable in a civil court due to Section 9 of the Civil Procedure Code and Rule 7 of the Karnataka Registration of Births and Deaths Rules, 1999. They cited Rules 7 and 11 of the said Rules and Section 15 of the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, asserting that the appropriate authority for correcting errors in Birth and Death Certificates lies with the Registrar, rendering the civil court without jurisdiction.

IN HIGH COURT

The bench concluded that the plaintiff's grievance, being one that directly pertains to a correction in the official record of a death, is thus within the domain of the Registrar and not amenable to adjudication by a civil court.

Dismissing the appeal, the court remarked, "In the event such an application is submitted, respondent No 1 shall consider the same expeditiously and in a sensitive manner. The authority shall afford the plaintiff a reasonable opportunity of being heard and shall pass a speaking order in accordance with law."

-BMB

MP K Sudhakar granted interim relief by HC

The Karnataka High Court on Monday granted interim protection to BJP MP K Sudhakar, directing that the police should not take any coercive action against him in connection with an FIR alleging abetment of suicide of a government driver in Chikkaballapura.

Justice MI Arun issued the order while hearing Sudhakar's plea to quash the case. "Respondent no 1 shall not take any coercive steps against the petitioner. The petitioner shall cooperate with the investigation. Any chargesheet/final report to be filed by the State shall be done with permission of this court," the judge said.

Senior advocate Prabhuling K Navadgi, representing Sudhakar, referred to the complaint and death note, stating, "I (petitioner) have had no contact with this person (deceased). Manjunath and Nagesh ask him for some money. I do not know them. It is an unfortunate incident, but nobody is safe if this course is adopted by the state government."

The deceased, M Babu, took his life on August 7. In his note, he wrote that Nagesh and Manjunath had promised him a government job using their connection with Sudhakar, then a state minister, in return for Rs 40 lakh. He allegedly paid Rs 25 lakh but was harassed when he could not arrange the remaining Rs 15 lakh. The note also mentioned a loss of Rs 11 lakh in online gaming before he hanged himself near the Deputy Commissioner's office.

Navadgi told the court that the note did not indicate any direct or indirect instigation by Sudhakar and that the MP had not received any money from the deceased. He argued that Babu may have been misled by the two other accused.

Special Public Prosecutor BA Beliappa, opposing the plea, said the case was still under investigation and pointed out that Sudhakar's name featured in both the complaint and the death note.

The court said it would deliver a detailed order later but maintained the interim relief in the meantime.

-BMB

Karnataka Forest Dept faces staffing crisis

With over two-thirds of sanctioned permanent forest watchers' posts continuing to remain vacant, experts urge department to fill vacancies fast

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@timesofindia.com

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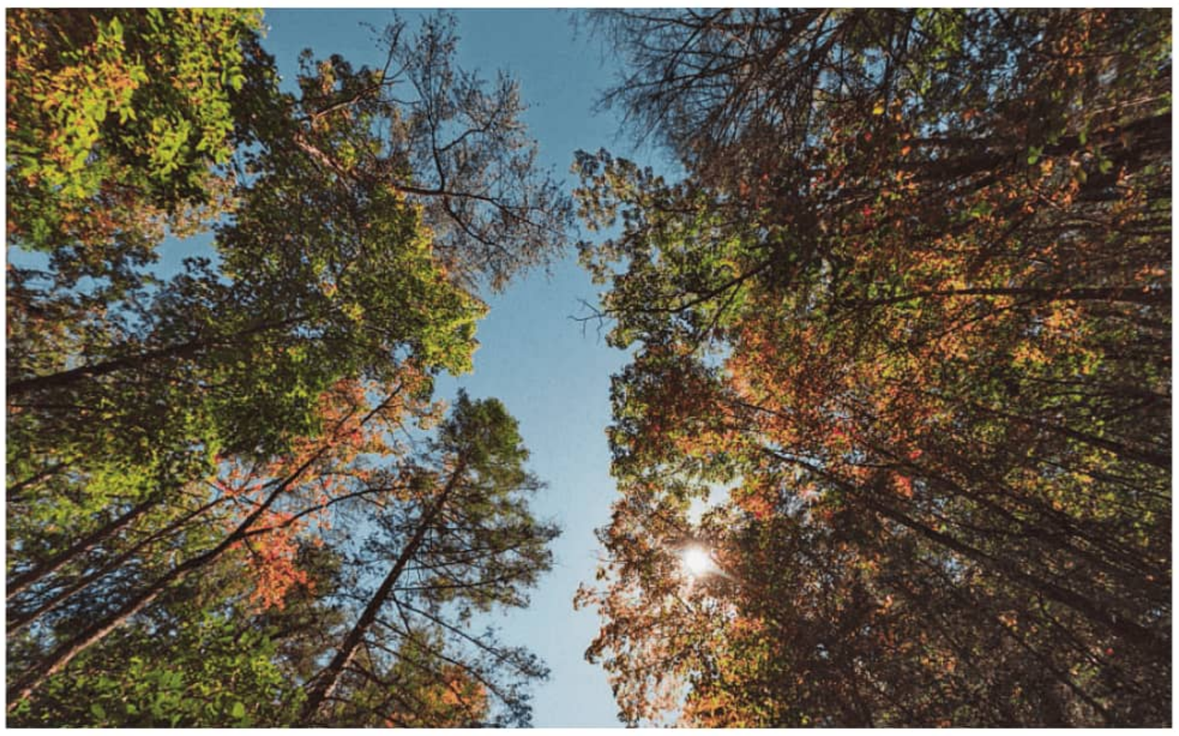
Karnataka Forest Department remains grossly understaffed to patrol and manage more than 40,000 square kilometres of forest area. According to official data, more than two-thirds of the permanent forest watchers' posts in the department are still lying vacant. While there are 1,892 sanctioned posts for forest watchers, as many as 1,435 posts remain unoccupied. Similarly, there are 5,494 posts of forest guards, and 2,561 posts are vacant.

Overall, the department still has 54 per cent of its sanctioned frontline staff posts unfilled.

KFD's statistics also show that the strength of permanent frontline workers in the department has been dismal for many years. In 2019-20, while the total number of sanctioned posts for forest watchers was 1,177, only 717 posts were occupied, and the vacancy rate was 39 per cent. In 2020-21, the number of sanctioned posts was increased to 1,402, however, the total number of forest watchers on duty dropped to 529, increasing the vacancy rate to 62 per cent.

In 2021-22, the number of sanctioned posts was further pushed up to 1,892, and the total posts occupied dropped to 327, leading to a vacancy rate of 82 per cent.



Experts say forest watchers play a crucial role in forest and wildlife conservation

Wildlife conservationist says large number of vacancies points to State's apathy towards protection of forests and wildlife

A year later, in 2022-23, while the total sanctioned posts for forest watchers remained unchanged (1,892), only 241 were occupied, leaving 1,651 posts (87 per cent) vacant.

In 2023-24, nearly 91 per cent of the forest watcher posts were not filled.

Frontline workers, including forest watchers, play an important role in wildlife and forest conservation, experts say.

"While there is a slight surge in appointments recently, the number of occupied posts is still low. Such a large number of vacancies points to apathy of the state government towards the protection of our forests and wildlife. Forest watchers are frontline soldiers that protect our forest and wildlife from various threats, including poaching, forest fire, timber smuggling etc," said a wildlife conservationist.

Although the department has an outsourcing system in place to hire temporary watchers, experts say it is important that the sanctioned positions of permanent frontline workers are filled in immediately.

A wildlife activist noted that outsourced staff do not get compensated on time due to various reasons, leading to compromised patrolling efforts. "Permanent staff will not face this issue. The government should fix this issue of shortage of frontline staff to avoid another incident similar to the death of five tigers in Male Mahadeshwara Hills Wildlife Sanctuary (MM Hills WLS) recently," said the wildlife activist.

UGC pay taken without proper qualifications

A major irregularity has surfaced in Karnataka's higher education sector, with 881 assistant professors in government first-grade colleges drawing lakhs in University Grants Commission (UGC)-scale salaries despite lacking the mandatory qualifications—PhD, NET, or K-SET. As per UGC norms, only those meeting these criteria must be considered eligible for the 2006 pay scale of Rs 37,400 to Rs 67,000, yet many assistant professors were appointed and paid without meeting these standards.

The Accountant General flagged the issue, revealing that most of these ineligible lecturers have already retired. The Department of Collegiate Education, now collecting details from principals, has admitted that this lapse continued to go unnoticed for several years. Karnataka has 430 government first-grade colleges, with over 7,000 permanent assistant professors and 12 lecturers; among them, these 881 assistant professors have been found ineligible to be considered under the UGC pay scale, raising questions over compliance and oversight.

-BMB

FORM NO. URC-2

Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI

[Pursuant to section 374(b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014]

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application has been made to the Registrar at **NO. 46/4, K NO. 661/3-11114/3,4,5 3RD FLOOR, NOVEL TECH PARK, G B PALYA, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560068** that **CODEGAMA LLP** a business entity may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by shares,
2. **The principal objects of the company are as follows:**
   1. To carry on the business of Software designing, development, customisation, implementation, maintenance, testing and benchmarking, designing, developing and dealing in computer software and solutions, and to import, export, sell, purchase, distribute, host (in data centres or over the web) or otherwise deal in own and third party computer software packages, programs and solutions, and to provide internet / web based applications, services and solutions, provide or take up Information technology related assignments on sub-contracting basis, offering services on-site/ offsite or through development centres using owned /hired or third party infrastructure and equipment, providing recruitment and HR related services, providing and taking personnel / consultants/ human resources to / from other organizations, providing solutions / Packages / services through applications services provider mode via internet or otherwise, to undertake legal transcription, data processing, Back office processing and database management.
   3. A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at **NO. 46/4, K NO. 661/3-11114/3,4,5 3RD FLOOR, NOVEL TECH PARK, G B PALYA, BANGALORE, Karnataka, India, 560068**.
   4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at **The Central Registration Centre (CRC) is located at the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), specifically at Plot No. 6, 7 & 8, Sector 5, IMT Manesar, District Gurugram, Haryana, PIN-122052** with in twenty one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.

Name(s)of Applicant
1. Aravinth Ramesh
2. G Ramesh

Dated this 12th day of August 2025.

State cracks down on illegal layouts, officials face action

Revenue Department targets misuse of 11E maps, vowing land seizures, disciplinary measures, and weekly progress checks to curb rampant violations

Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Investigation reveals collusion between landowners and officers, enabling large-scale violations despite earlier government orders banning such practices across multiple districts

In a decisive move to curb illegal land development, the Karnataka Revenue Department has launched a major crackdown on unauthorised layouts formed by misusing land regulations. Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda has directed officials to identify and take stringent action against errant officers who facilitated these irregularities.

Across the state, fertile agricultural land especially in prime locations is being illegally converted into residential plots without proper approval under Section 95 of the Land Revenue Act. Developers have been exploiting provisions of "11E maps," originally meant for legitimate partitioning, to divide land into smaller sites, sometimes less than one gunta, and sell them as part of layouts. Many of these layouts lack basic infrastructure, creating long-term planning challenges and civic issues.

Investigations have revealed that in several instances, officials colluded with landowners to bypass conversion norms, allowing large-scale violations. Since September last year, the department has been gathering data on such cases, including those under the "Swavalambi" scheme, where 11E maps were issued without conversion and later regularised through "phodi durasthi" (land record adjustments).

The minister said genuine cases would be excluded from the crackdown, but wherever illegal plotting is detected, the land would be seized and strict disciplinary action taken against those involved. Some officials have already been suspended for their role in the malpractice. Despite a 2021 government order prohibiting these practices under Section 105 of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, violations continued in certain districts.

> **"We will not tolerate manipulation of land laws to benefit a few at the cost of public interest. Illegal layouts will be seized and the officials responsible will face strict punishment**
>
> –Minister Krishna Byre Gowda

In at least 117 applications examined so far, land was partitioned and sold without agricultural use or legal conversion, causing revenue losses to the state.

A case in Maddur, Mandya district, illustrates the modus operandi. Under the guise of the "Swavalambi" scheme, an application sought division into seven blocks with 118 maps. On December 20, 2023, 11E maps were illegally issued for parcels measuring just 1–3 guntas each, which were then converted into 45 residential sites. Phodi corrections were made to the records, enabling their sale without proper approval.

In a recent progress review meeting, the minister instructed all Deputy Commissioners to compile data on 30,340 suspected cases. Officials have been told to verify each case on the ground, determine its legality, and submit reports within a week. Based on these findings, further legal action and land seizure orders will follow. "We will not tolerate manipulation of land laws to benefit a few at the cost of public interest. Illegal layouts will be seized, and the officials responsible will face strict punishment," Gowda warned, reiterating the government's resolve to protect agricultural land and uphold the law.

Insurance scam: Fake accidents rock Mysuru

Authorities in Mysuru district have busted a large-scale racket faking road accident to cheat insurance companies. Fraudsters, allegedly aided by private hospitals and some police personnel, created false accident cases with fabricated FIRs and bogus medical treatments to claim hefty compensations. Investigations found certain individuals repeatedly posing as accident victims in multiple cases across KR Nagar and Ilavala police limits, despite having no injuries. The scam involved staging minor two-wheeler mishaps, filing false complaints, admitting 'victims' to hospitals, and producing fake medical records. Insurance companies, including ICICI Lombard, have lodged cases against 14 accused, including hospital officials. Claims ranged from 3–10 lakh each, causing major losses. Officials warn the network is extensive and part of organised crime operations. **–BMB**

4,000 acres temple land identified

In a landmark initiative, Karnataka's Muzrai Department has identified about 4,000 acres of temple land across Tumakuru, Mysuru, Mandya, and other districts, preparing detailed sketches and recommending them for final government notification under Section 31/700 to secure legal ownership. Historically, nearly 48,000 acres donated by kings and royals were encroached upon for decades without serious recovery efforts. For the first time, the department has systematically surveyed, verified, and documented these lands on its Integrated Temple Management System website to safeguard assets permanently. The drive has reclaimed key holdings of prominent shrines like Kukke Subrahmanya, Belur Chennakeshava, and Hoysaleshwari temples. Of the 11,359 acres targeted, 4,000 have been secured so far, with legal teams continuing phased surveys to recover remaining properties and bring them under Muzrai control, protecting them from future encroachments. **–BMB**

Rajanna sacked after poll fraud remark jolts K'taka Congress government

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Cooperation Minister KN Rajanna was on Monday ousted from the Karnataka Cabinet after Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot accepted Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's recommendation to remove him.

According to sources in the Chief Minister's Office, Siddaramaiah had first asked Rajanna to step down from his post. When the minister refused, the Chief Minister sent a formal dismissal recommendation to the Raj Bhavan on Monday afternoon. The Governor promptly approved the proposal, and a notification was issued to the state government. Special Secretary to the Governor, R Prabhushankar, conveyed the order to Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh, confirming Rajanna's removal from the Council of Ministers.

Rajanna, a long-time ally of Siddaramaiah, has been embroiled in controversy in recent months. In August, he stirred speculation by predicting a "September Revolution" seen as a veiled hint at internal unrest in the government. His ouster, however, followed remarks last week in which he alleged that over a lakh bogus voters were allowed in Mahadevapura during the tenure of the Congress government, under whose watch the 2024 Lok Sabha elections took place.

The statement directly contradicted recent claims by Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi and Bengaluru that the BJP retained power at the Centre through electoral malpractices. Rajanna's comments handed the opposition fresh ammunition and forced the Congress into damage-control mode.

The controversy spilled into the Karnataka Assembly, where Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka claimed Rajanna had already resigned. "He just spoke the truth that there was a Congress government when the voting took place," Ashoka said, demanding clarity from the government. BJP legislators sought an official statement, while Law Minister HK Patil urged against debating unverified media reports. Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar dismissed Rajanna's allegations as "totally wrong" and said the party high command would address the matter.

> **Rajanna just spoke the truth—that there was a Congress government when the voting took place**
>
> –R Ashoka, BJP leader, LoP

Rajanna's removal the second Siddaramaiah cabinet exit in under four months after B Nagendra's resignation , is seen as a major political blow, costing the CM a trusted ally ahead of crucial electroal battles.

Family of victim 'murdered' 39 years ago petition SIT

Team urged to reopen case, exhume body of girl whose body was found days after she went missing in 1986

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Nearly four decades after the death of a pre-university student in Dharmasthala, her family remains steadfast in their quest for justice.

Padmalatha's elder sister, Indravati, has petitioned the Special Investigation Team (SIT) to reopen the case and exhume the body in an effort to uncover the truth. The 39-year-old case has undergone multiple investigations over the years, none of which provided closure. An earlier inquiry by a Circulating Officer also ended without resolution.

In her petition, Indravati, a resident of Nelyadi, said Padmalatha, daughter of the late Devananda, was studying at SDM College, Ujire, when she went missing on December 22, 1986. Her last known sighting was in Dharmasthala. Weeks later, on February 17, 1987, her decomposed body was found near the Neriya stream.

Speaking to reporters in Mangaluru on Monday after submitting the petition, Indravati said the family had received no support despite decades of efforts to seek justice. "A glimmer of hope has now emerged after the SIT was formed to investigate missing people and reports of mass graves. So, we have appealed to the police to reopen the case," she said.

The SIT is currently probing a series of suspicious deaths in the Dharmasthala region. Indravati hopes her sister's case will be included in the scope of this investigation.

Officials said the SIT has begun inspections using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) technology to examine sites where complainants allege multiple bodies may be buried. On Monday, the team, along with GPR specialists, inspected the 13th site identified by a complainant, located near the Netravati bathing ghat.

The inspections are part of efforts to verify statements given to investigators. "The GPR survey marks a significant step in the probe. Further action will depend on the findings," officials said.

Ground Penetrating Radar is an electromagnetic method that sends radio wave pulses into the ground to detect subsurface structures.

IN FOCUS
DHARMASTHALA MASS BURIALS

Workers clearing the spot no 13 at Dharmasthala

Gag order extension plea rejected

Meanwhile, in a related development, the Karnataka High Court was informed on Monday that the trial court had refused to extend its July 18 ex-parte interim order restraining several media outlets and YouTube channels from publishing any allegedly defamatory content about Harshendra Kumar D and his family in connection with the Dharmasthala burial case.

The update came during the hearing of a petition filed by Spunklane Media Pvt. Ltd., which operates The News Minute, challenging the gag order. The July 18 directive had barred the publication of alleged defamatory material against Harshendra Kumar—brother of Dharmasthala Dharmadhikari Veerendra Heggade—his relatives, family-run institutions, and the Sri Manjunathaswamy Temple in Dharmasthala.

The case was transferred to another bench after the previous judge recused himself. On August 6, court lifted gag order, enabling renewed media focus on Padmalatha's decades-old death investigation.

INBRIEF

ASHA strike: Health Dept bars leave for staff

In response to a planned three-day strike by ASHA workers starting August 12, the Karnataka Health Department on Monday issued a notice prohibiting all officers and staff from taking leave during the protest period, except in cases of medical emergencies.

Accredited Social Health Activists workers are demanding the fixed honorarium of Rs 10,000 promised by the state government in January. They have announced a continuous state-level protest from August 12 to 14.

The notice stated, "Information about ASHA workers absent from duty within district limits will be collected daily from primary health centres, compiled at the district level, and submitted to the commissionerate by 3 pm during the protest."

The Health Department urged health officials and anganwadi workers to work together, ensuring public healthcare. –PTI

Assembly ratifies revocation of suspension of 18 BJP MLAs

The Karnataka Legislative Assembly on Monday ratified the decision to revoke the suspension of 18 BJP MLAs.

A motion to this effect was moved by Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil, which was approved by the Assembly with a voice vote. On May 25, Speaker UT Khader had announced revoking the suspension of 18 legislators following a meeting with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, Leader of Opposition R Ashoka, and Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil. The MLAs whose suspension has been revoked are BJP chief whip Doddanagouda Patil, former Deputy CM CN Ashwath Narayan, S R Vishwanath, BA Basavaraju, M R Patil, Channabasappa, B Suresh Gowda, Umanath Kotyan, Sharanu Salagar, Dr Shailendra Beldale, CK Ramamurthy, Yashpal Suvarna, B P Harish, Bharath Shetty, Dheeraj Muniraju, Chandru Lamani, Muniratna and Basavaraj Mattimud. –PTI

Dentist murders mom-in-law, chops body parts

Police cracked a woman's murder in Koratagere in Tumakuru and arrested her dentist son-in-law Dr Ramachandrappa S and his two accomplices.

Tumakuru police recovered the severed head of the woman, Lakshmi Devi and her partially decomposed, dismembered body pieces, found stuffed in multiple plastic bags, along the road at Kolala village in Koratagere.

When police combed the crime spot they found seven more plastic bags stuffed with body parts and the head on August 8.

They fixed the identity of the woman, Lakshmi Devi (42), with the help of the head.

To trace the accused in the case, the Superintendent of Police Ashok K V formed a team which investigated and arrested Ramachandrappa, Satish K N and Kiran K S, all residents of Tumakuru. –PTI

IISc's CalBots promise one-time cure for tooth sensitivity

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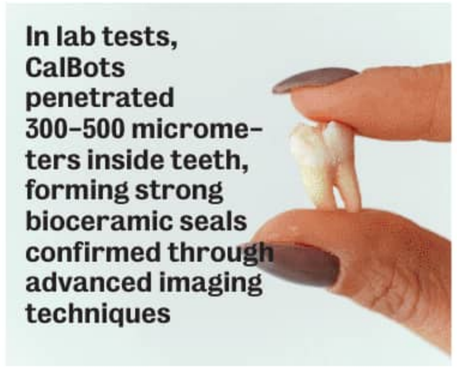
Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have come up with a technology that provides lasting relief from tooth sensitivity in just one application.

In collaboration with deep-tech startup Thera nautilus, IISc scientists have engineered magnetic nanobots that can travel deep into microscopic tunnels in teeth, reaching the nerve endings. These "CalBots" can then create durable seals for worn enamel, offering long-term relief from sensitivity in a single treatment.

The technology uses a new class of bio ceramic cement, designed specifically for hypersensitivity, which penetrates deeper and lasts longer than conventional solutions.

"We did not want to create a slightly better version of what is already out there. We wanted a technology that solves a real problem in a way no one's attempted before," said Shanmukh Peddi, first author of the study, postdoctoral researcher at IISc's Centre for Nano Science and Engineering (CeNSE), and co-founder of Thera nautilus.

Tooth sensitivity occurs when microscopic tubules in the layer beneath the enamel, called dentine, are exposed due to erosion or gum recession. These tubules lead directly to nerve endings, which is why even a sip of cold water can trigger sharp pain. Most existing solutions, such as desensitising toothpastes, only provide surface-level relief and require repeated use.



In lab tests, CalBots penetrated 300–500 micrometers inside teeth, forming strong bioceramic seals confirmed through advanced imaging techniques

CalBots work differently. Measuring just 400 nanometres in size, these magnetic particles are loaded with a proprietary calcium silicate-based bio ceramic formula. Guided by an external magnetic field, they can travel up to 300–500 micrometres deep inside the exposed tubules. Once in place, the nanobots self-assemble into cement-like plugs that recreate a seal mimicking the tooth's natural structure.

> **This is a compelling demonstration of what nanorobotics can achieve, and how they could significantly impact future healthcare**
>
> –Professor Ambarish Ghosh

To test the innovation, researchers used human teeth extracted for clinical reasons. They simulated conditions where dentine was exposed and applied CalBots under a magnetic field for 20 minutes. High-resolution imaging confirmed that the nanobots formed stable plugs sealing the dentinal tubules.

Encouraged by these results, the team conducted animal trials in collaboration with IISc's Centre for Neuroscience. In the experiment, mice were given a choice between cold and room-temperature water. While healthy mice drank both equally, those with induced tooth sensitivity avoided cold water altogether.

"After treating the sensitive mice with our CalBot solution, they started drinking cold water again – the treatment worked like a charm. We saw 100 per cent behavioural recovery. That was a big moment for us," Peddi said.

HC sets aside PU Dept order rejecting compassionate appointment

The Karnataka High Court has set aside a Pre-University Education Department order that rejected a compassionate appointment request from the son of a deceased staff member solely because no vacancy was available in the same institution where his father had served.

Allowing the petition filed by Santosh Yamanappa Wadakar, Justice Suraj Govindaraj held that the decision was contrary to the Karnataka Pre-University Education (Academic, Registration, Administration, Grant-in-aid, etc.) (Amendment) Rules, 2010. Referring to Clause 1(a) and (b), the court noted that such appointments must first be considered in the aided pre-university institution where the deceased worked. If no vacancy is available, the Deputy Director must identify one within the district, and if still unavailable, the Director must locate a position elsewhere in the State.

The court observed, "In the present case, the petitioner's application has been rejected solely on the ground that no vacancy exists in the institution where his father was working. This rejection is in clear contravention of the mandate under Clause 1(a) and (b) of the Rules 2010. The respondents are duty-bound to act in strict conformity with the Rules while considering the petitioner's legitimate claim for compassionate appointment."

Setting aside the rejection, the court remitted the matter to the Deputy Director to reconsider the application by identifying vacancies in the district first, and if none are found, escalating it to the Director for a State-wide search.

Wadakar's father was a First Grade Assistant at Adarsh Composite Pre-University College, Bevoor, Bagalkot District, an aided institution. Following his death, the petitioner's request for compassionate appointment, forwarded via the institution's chairman, was rejected by the Deputy Director without exploring vacancies beyond the college. **BMB**

House help arrested for attack on woman

The Vyali Kaval police have arrested a domestic worker for allegedly attacking a 21-year-old woman with a machete while she was asleep at a residence in Basappa Garden, Malleshwaram, in the early hours of August 10.

According to the complaint filed by a retired nurse, the victim, Sushmita, had been staying at the complainant's residence. On the night of August 9, the family, including the complainant, her husband Venugopal, their son, and house help Lalithamma, had dinner together before retiring to their respective rooms. Sushmita went to sleep in a room on the third floor, while Lalithamma slept in the kitchen.

At around 3 am, the complainant received a frantic call from Sushmita, screaming for help and claiming that the maid had attacked her with a knife in an attempt to kill her.

The complainant and her son rushed to the third floor to find Sushmita lying in a pool of blood with torn clothes and deep wounds on her face and hands.

The accused allegedly fled the scene, taking some belongings and telling the family that she was heading to Bhattarahalli. The complainant immediately alerted the police control room (112) and arranged for an ambulance. With the help of neighbours, Sushmita was taken to a hospital in Seshadripuram. Police have booked the accused under charges of attempt to murder, and investigations are underway to ascertain the motive behind the violent attack. **BMB**

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I, Santosh Kumar Narayanappa Jujugar residing at No A/3, Trivedi Building, Chunchaghatta Main Road, K C Circle, Konanakunte, Bengaluru-560062, have changed my name to Santhosh Kumar Narayanappa Jujugar for all purposes.

I, Nidhi Habbu D/o Kiran Kumar Habbu R/o RVCE girls hostel, 5th cross, Pattanagere, RR nagar, Bengaluru 560098 have changed my name to Arya Habbu Affidavit Dt.11/08/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Manju Rani W/o Bhupinder Singh R/o B-1101, 11 sec-5, B-Beech Brigade Meadows Kaggalipur B'lore-560082 have changed my name to Manju Singh.

I, Arhanth Dinesh And Shruthi Ramkumar R/o Krishvi Tierra, No 119, 3rd Main, Defence Colony, Hal 2nd Stage, Indiranagar Bengaluru - 560038, Karnataka have changed my minor son's name from Aaryan Arhanth Dinesh to Aryen Arhanth.

I Rakesh Kumar Mishra S/O, Kashinath Mishra R/o No 1116, 35th D Cross, Jayanagar 4th T Block,bengaluru-560041 have changed my name to Rakesh Mishra.

I, Syeeda Nasreen W/o Layaq Hussain R/o 29, Anglo Indian Block Austin Town B'lore-560047 have changed my name to Syeda Nasreen.

I, Siddappa Talawar S/o Maruti R/o #231, Badkundri Belgaum-591221 have changed my name to Siddappa M Talawar.

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I, Indumathi W/o Pruthiraj Naidu, residing at No.2BC-323, 2nd B cross, 4th main, OMBR layout, Banasawadi, Bangalore-560 043, stating that, I have lost the original allotment letter of my BDA site No.2BC-323 at OMBR layout, Bangalore, which is lost on 06.08.2025 at Banasawadi, In this regard, I have filed a complaint (LR No.1740633/2025) to Bangalore city police on 07.08.2025. If any one finds the said document, please contact the above address or call to Mobile 9632766385.

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Potholes even on zebra crossings

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

zebra crossings have no potholes. "There are no zebra crossings at many traffic junctions. The zebra crossings at Halasuru Road Junction and at Gurudwara are full of potholes," said Padmanabhan.

Demanding that the authorities concerned fix the problems, Poornima Shetty, Social Innovator and Founder, Safety for Women, said that when zebra crossings become obstacle courses and potholes turn into hazards, it's clear that pedestrian safety is being sacrificed. "Who is accountable for ensuring our streets are safe for women, children, and the elderly? It's time to demand better infrastructure and stricter enforcement to protect the most vulnerable road users," Poornima Shetty said.

Save pedestrians

Stating that pedestrian safety calls for a special drive, Vinod Jacob, a civic evangelist, emphasised on the need for better infrastructure for pedestrians. "Even zebra crossings have become dangerous for children and senior citizens. The focus is on roads and motor vehicles.

We need basic infrastructure for first and last mile connectivity. No public transport will survive if our roads are not walkable. We need to fix walkability in the city to ensure roads and footpaths are safe for pedestrians," he said.

Meanwhile, BBMP East Chief Engineer Suguna said the BBMP has taken up filling of potholes and craters on the roads in and around Halasuru.

"No one informed me about the zebra crossing with potholes

at Trinity Junction. We will fix this problem shortly," the chief engineer said.

Only 20% of KFD offices audited this year

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fund misappropriation. "Such poor performance in internal audit will only lead to fund misappropriation.

In many divisions of the Department, money that should be used for conservation purposes is being used for civil work. Internal audits are meant to review such programs and ensure that financial records are accurate and as intended. With only 20% of the offices audited, fund misappropriation is bound to happen," said Joseph Hoover, former member of the State Board of Wildlife and founder of the United Conservation Movement and Charitable Trust.

Recently, Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre instructed the officials of the Forest Department to visit forest-adjacent villages once a month and conduct public meetings. He also said that senior officials must visit each forest division, review the functioning of the divisional officers and patrol staff, and motivate the frontline staff to prevent such incidents.

Hoover, however, alleges that the Department is using public money injudiciously.

Conflict rises

Khandre, on Monday, expressed concerns about increasing human-wildlife conflict cases while forest cover is diminishing.

Khandre, speaking during the ongoing monsoon session of the legislature, highlighted that in 2025-26 so far, 19 people have died due to elephant attacks (13), in leopard attacks, 6 have died in attacks by other animals.

In 2022-23, 32 human deaths due to elephant attacks were reported. As many as 48 deaths were recorded in 2023-24, and 36 in 2024-25.

The Minister also stated that a 50% subsidy is being provided to villagers on the outskirts of the forest to construct fences to prevent the entry of wild elephants. Elephant-resistant trenches are also being constructed apart from specially designed concrete walls to prevent flooding in the EPTs.

HEALTH TIP: Lemon water has many health benefits and it'll cure the pain in your throat effectively

Coconut oil could be an ideal treatment for scalp ringworms as it's easy to apply to the scalp and an effective hair conditioner

BangaloreMirror | 9
Tuesday, August 12, 2025
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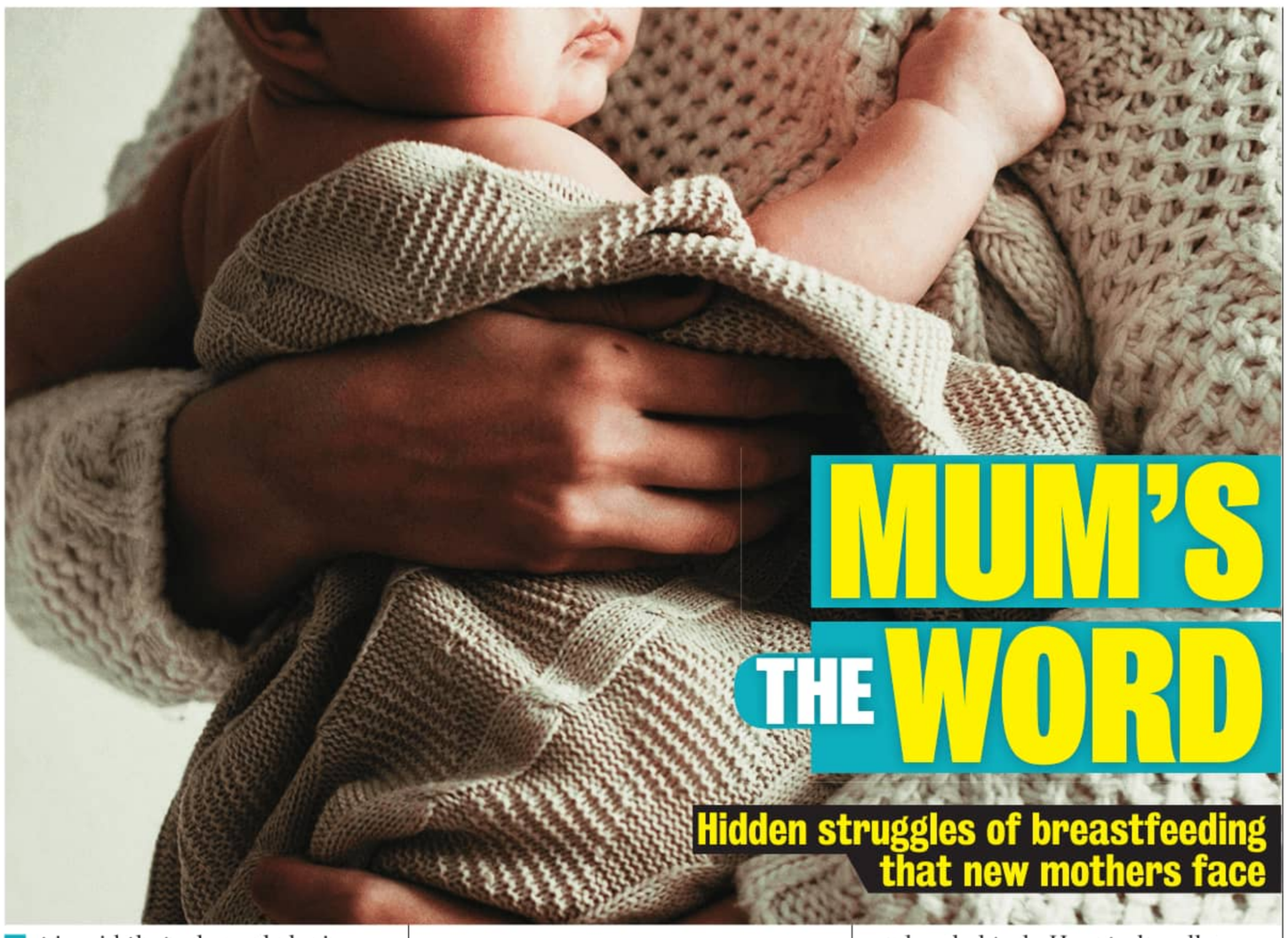


MUM'S THE WORD

Hidden struggles of breastfeeding that new mothers face

It is said that when a baby is born, a mother is also born. That is very true, as the mother rediscovers herself. Along with her own recovery, she encounters several challenges. One of the first difficult duties she undertakes from day one is breastfeeding. Although it is a deeply bonding and rewarding experience, it comes with many physical, emotional, and logistical struggles.

While social media might make it look effortless, the reality is that breastfeeding requires patience, support, and self-compassion, especially in those early weeks and months. Dr Keerti Khetan, Director – Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at CK Birla Hospital, Delhi, shares practical advice and reassures mothers that it's okay to find the journey hard.

1 Sleep Deprivation And Fatigue

Lack of sleep is synonymous with new motherhood. Frequent night feeds, a wailing baby, and the general anxiety of the whole process can leave them physically and mentally exhausted. "Sleep deprivation can leave mothers feeling fatigued, grumpy, and stressed," says Dr Keerti.

How to handle this challenge: "The best thing you can do is nap when the baby naps, share the duties with your partner or a family member, and try to create a calm environment to get quality rest."

2 Physical Discomforts

The initial days of breastfeeding can bring a lot of pain due to cracked nipples, and blocked ducts leading to mastitis; these can make feeding a dreaded task. How to handle this challenge: "Maintaining a proper latch, trying different feeding positions, or using warm compresses before feeding can help ease some of the discomfort," says Dr Keerti. "A lactation consultant can make a significant difference, even with a few sessions."

3 Balancing Responsibilities

Mothers who have an older child at home or those returning to work face a litmus test with guilt, time crunches, and emotional overload. "For working mothers or those with other children to care for, it's especially hard to manage it all," Dr Keerti notes.

How to handle this challenge: "Pumping for flexibility and building a trusted support network is key to easing this pressure."

4 Postpartum Blues

Breastfeeding isn't just physical; it can take a toll emotionally as well. Feelings of isolation, pressure, and inadequacy can creep in, sometimes leading to postpartum blues or even depression. "Emotional fatigue is real, and it's not always visible," explains Dr Keerti.

How to handle this challenge: "Support groups, being outdoors, and simply talking to someone can offer mothers a sense of power over their situation."

5 Neglecting Self-Care

With all the attention on the baby, it's easy for mothers to forget their own nutritional and emotional needs. Yet, a breastfeeding mother's health is just as important.

How to handle this challenge: "Continue with a well-balanced diet, keep yourself hydrated, and don't forget your prenatal supplements," advises Dr Keerti. "Most importantly, don't compare your journey with others'. Needing help is a sign of strength, not weakness."

6 The Pressure Of Perfection

There is immense societal pressure on mothers to breastfeed a certain way, for a certain duration, the responsibility of weight gain and so on. What is often missing is empathy. Every mother's journey is different and that's okay. Whether you breastfeed for two months, two years, or not at all, what matters most is the love, care, and intention you bring to your parenting.

The Final Note!

With support and the right amount of information, and a generous dose of self-love, every new mother can navigate these challenges and make choices that feel right for her and her little one.

—Kayal Arivalan, Femina

MIRRORLIGHTS

Experts discover new insights on obesity

Obesity is a condition in which the body accumulates excessive or unhealthy fat. In India, it is often ignored—brushed off with casual excuses for weight gain or even laughed at—but rarely taken seriously enough to warrant a visit to the doctor. That attitude can be dangerous, as obesity has been linked to diabetes, various types of cancer, heart disease, and other chronic health problems. Roughly 44 million women and 26 million men in India are living with obesity: this number has been continuously increasing over the past few decades. This condition may be genetic or stem from lifestyle choices and environmental factors.

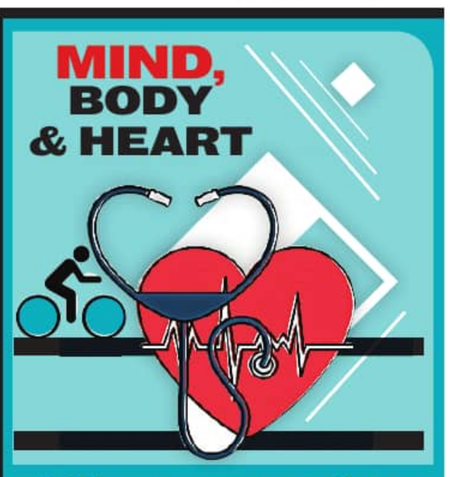
Why Is Obesity on the Rise in India?: Most people in India sleep less than 8 hours, eat at odd hours, and eat outside food daily, and that too is mainly fried food, in which burned oil is often reused. The quality of food in India has been a huge concern and a silent national emergency, with the rising cases of fake food, poor hygiene standards, and overuse of pesticides having decreased the quality of food.

Along with this, a sedentary lifestyle full of anxiety and stress is causing people's health to deteriorate faster than ever. All of this has led to insulin resistance, diabetes, and an unhealthy body.

Research Findings & Cultural Influences: A recent study by CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad has revealed that the increasing obesity in Indians is mainly due to lifestyle and environmental factors as opposed to genetic reasons. And another discovery made by the same study is that Indians have more central fat obesity than general obesity, pointing out a big difference compared to the West. Central fat obesity refers to a condition where fat is stored in the midsection or the tummy area instead of being evenly distributed throughout the body. This makes the PRS test inefficient for Indians, as this gene is not really a main contributor towards obesity in South Asians as it is in the Western countries. This could be due to various reasons: different genetic make-up, starvation (with years of famine bodies have adapted to store fat to be used in times of crises), chronic stress, and extremely unhealthy lifestyle and eating habits.

More women are obese in India compared to men, which is shocking because around 19 percent of women in India suffer from malnutrition. Skinny fat is the most common type of body in India today, with a higher fat percentage and lower muscle mass. There has been a global rise in obesity in recent years, within all age groups, including children. This rise especially has been a result of unhealthy lifestyle and eating habits.

—Femina



All you need to know about...

Cholesterol

What exactly is 'bad' cholesterol, and why is it harmful?
A. Bad cholesterol refers to Low-Density Lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, which can build up in your artery walls and lead to plaque formation. Over time, this can narrow the arteries and increase the risk of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular problems.

Can I lower my bad cholesterol without medication?
Yes, many people can manage and reduce LDL levels through lifestyle changes like diet, exercise, weight management, and stress reduction. However, in some cases, medication may still be necessary, especially if you have other risk factors.

How long does it take to see results from lifestyle changes?
You may start seeing improvements in your cholesterol levels within 4 to 6 weeks of consistent lifestyle changes, but significant changes typically take 3 months or more. Regular check-ups can help track your progress.

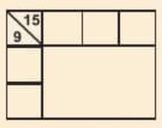
Are all fats bad for cholesterol?
No. While trans fats and saturated fats can raise LDL levels, healthy fats like those from avocados, nuts, seeds, and oily fish can actually help lower bad cholesterol and boost good cholesterol (HDL).

How long does it take to see results after making lifestyle changes?
With consistent effort like dietary tweaks, regular movement, and quitting smoking, most people can see improvements in their cholesterol levels within 4 to 12 weeks. A follow-up blood test will help track the progress.

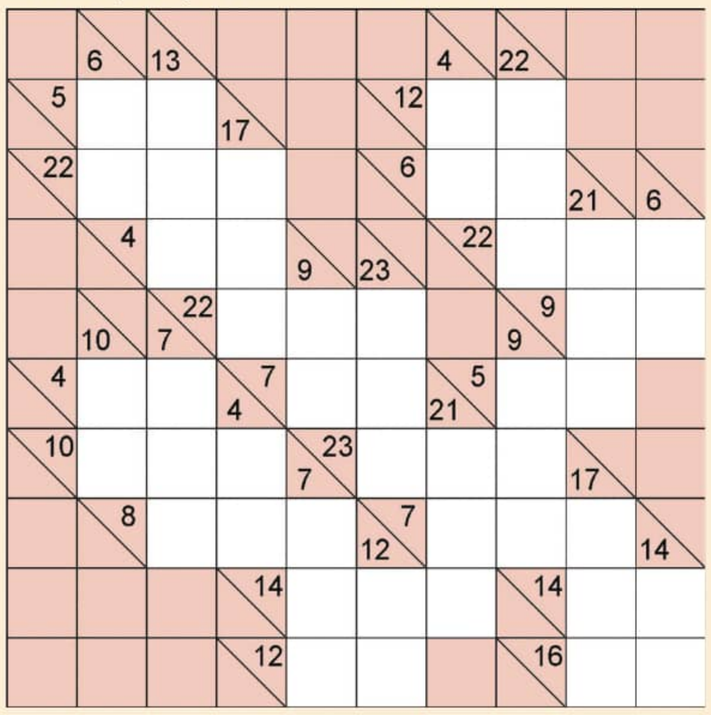
—Femina

Kakuro

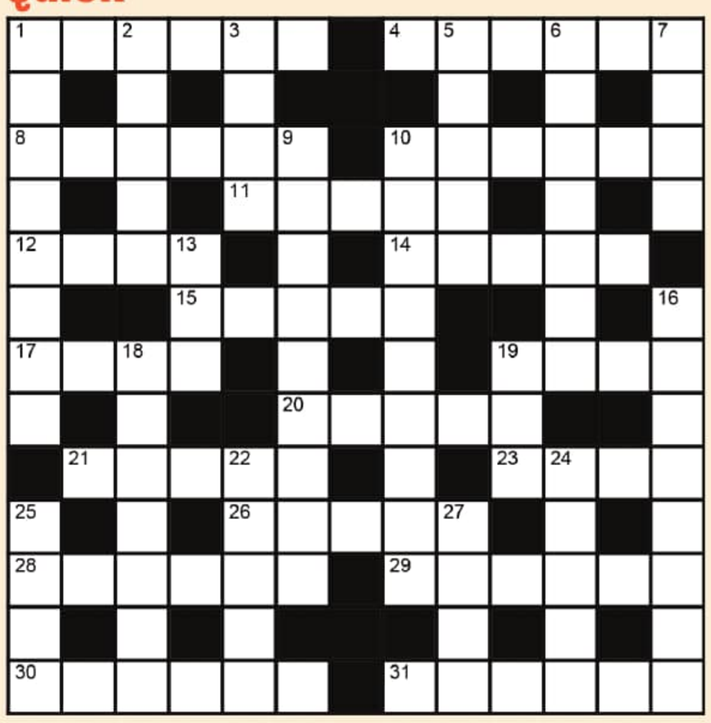
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Give; allot (6)
4 Evoked or called forth (6)
8 Foray, raid (6)
10 Expressed pain (6)
11 Sired (5)
12 City near Oakland (4)
14 Japanese-American (5)
15 Leaving (5)
17 Wise (4)
19 Against (4)
20 Permit (5)
21 Body part below the ribs (5)
23 Linguist Chomsky (4)
26 Joyous (5)
28 Rubble (6)
29 Without difficulty (6)
30 Unexpected (6)
31 Moved over ice (6)

DOWN

1 Censure (8)
2 Binding (5)
3 Garden denizen (4)
5 Loincloth (5)
6 School eatery (7)
7 Extinct bird (4)
9 Baptizes, enshrines or sanctifies (9)
10 Port city in Karnataka (9)
13 Period of human life (3)
16 Dejected (8)
18 Snatched or seized (7)
19 Bristle like part on certain grass (3)
22 Strike or hit (5)
24 Writer of lyric poetry (5)
25 Tots up? (4)
27 Tug (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: X EQUALS O

MXNLGUNLM OL MGKJL MX WXDS KG K PXXJ GIKG UM AWXMUDS GIKG OL MLL GXX WKGL GIL XDL GIKG UM XBLD.

Linemaro

Even on a spaceship without gravity, I would fall for you

Mindchow

A mind needs books as a sword needs a whetstone, if it is to keep its edge

Joke of the day

I worked in a pet store, and quit because people kept asking how big I'd get

Loop

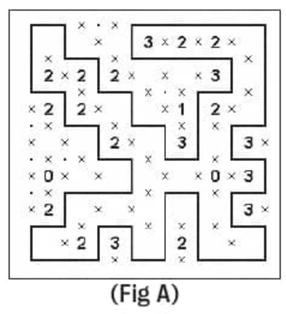
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

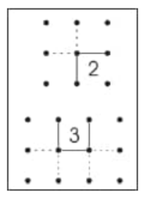
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

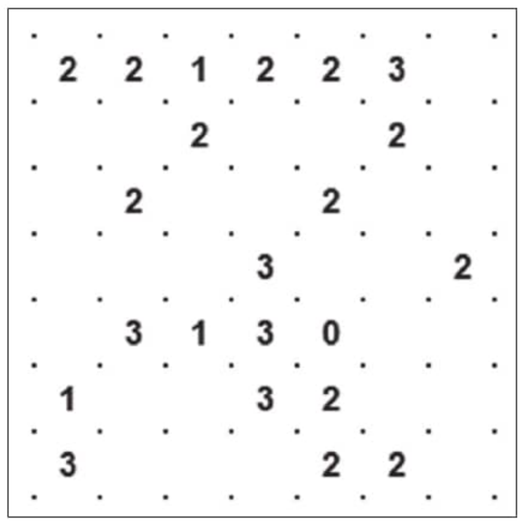
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



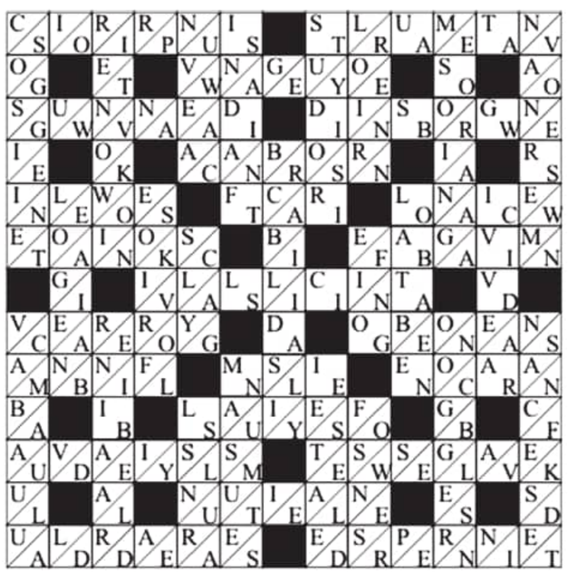
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5 H
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 Sush H; 6 An opt; 7 All so; 8 A vote; 9 Ready

DOWN

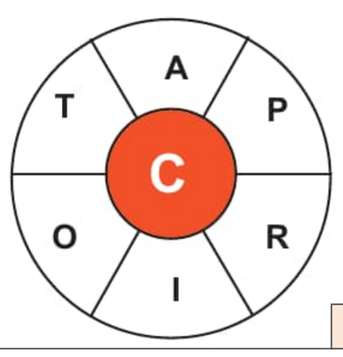
1 Sopor; 2 AV Hal; 3 NY alu; 4 Taste; 5 Shoed

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?

3	GNQ	8
3	RBS	9
4	TUA	2
2	FPC	5
3	OLH	?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; **12** Good; **14** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

9					2	4		
	2			3			8	6
1		3		5				
		2						9
6	7						4	5
8						3		
				1		9		4
5	4			6			7	
		6	2					1

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 6

4 4 7 9

Medium = 17

6 6 8 9

Hard = 4

2 4 5 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

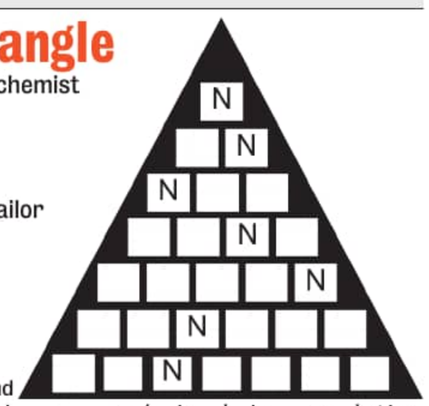
Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Water dispenser is moved. 3. Water cup is taller. 4. Drawer is added. 5. Headrest is smaller. 6. Poster is larger.

Riddler

How do you get 24 from 9, 6, 11 and 3 using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division?

Alpha triangle

1 Nitrogen for the chemist
2 A's alternative
3 Catch or arrest
4 Prohibits
5 Awash bowl
6 Arabian Nights sailor
7 Brigands

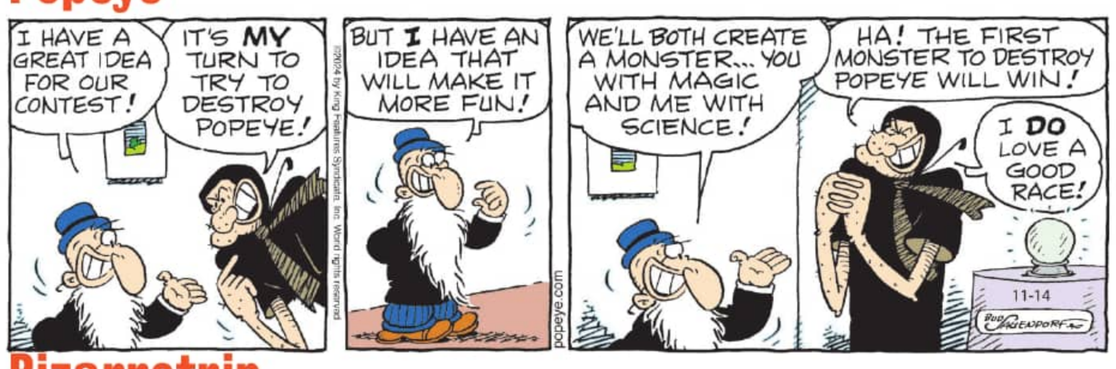


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


I HAVE A GREAT IDEA FOR OUR CONTEST!
IT'S MY TURN TO TRY TO DESTROY POPEYE!
BUT I HAVE AN IDEA THAT WILL MAKE IT MORE FUN!
WE'LL BOTH CREATE A MONSTER... YOU WITH MAGIC AND ME WITH SCIENCE!
HA! THE FIRST MONSTER TO DESTROY POPEYE WILL WIN!
I DO LOVE A GOOD RACE!
11-14
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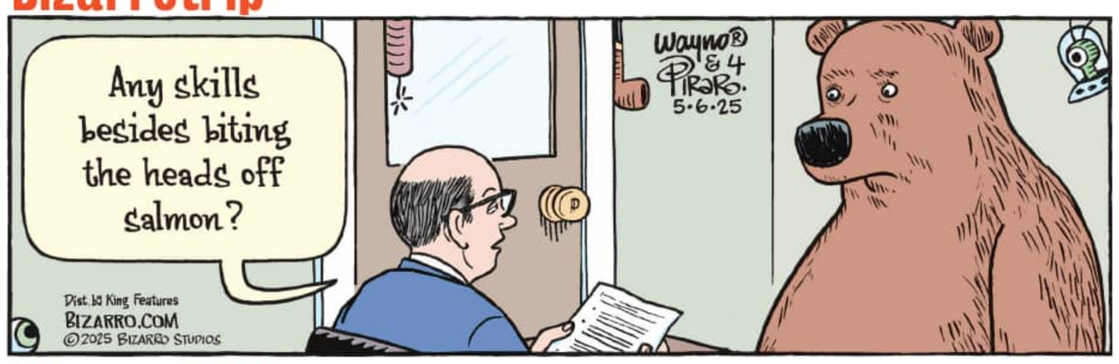
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip


Any skills besides biting the heads off salmon?
Wayno & Piraro 5·6·25
Dist. by King Features
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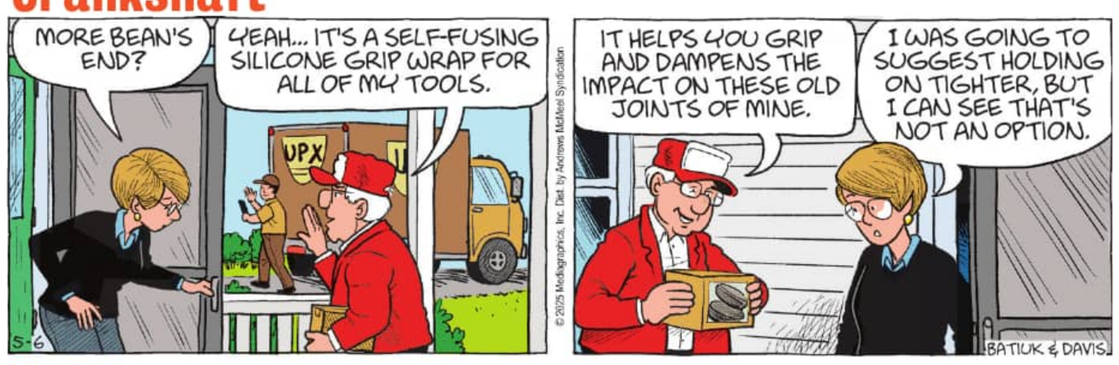
Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

SOMEONE LEAKED TO THE SCHOOL GOSSIP MAGAZINE "THE GRAPE-VINE" THAT TEACHERS WERE THE ONES DRAINING THE KIDS' PHONE BATTERIES.
THAT'S WHEN THE PROTESTS STARTED.
PHILLY MIDDLE TEACHERS
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
NO PHONE NO PEACE
I WANT MY POWER BACK!
Students protesting the Phone racks.
Heart at the After-School Rally
PHOTOS COURTESY OF SCHOOL YEARBOOK PHOTOGRAPHER TREPHONIE MILLS.

Crankshaft


MORE BEAN'S END?
YEAH... IT'S A SELF-FUSING SILICONE GRIP WRAP FOR ALL OF MY TOOLS.
IT HELPS YOU GRIP AND DAMPENS THE IMPACT ON THESE OLD JOINTS OF MINE.
I WAS GOING TO SUGGEST HOLDING ON TIGHTER, BUT I CAN SEE THAT'S NOT AN OPTION.
UPX
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BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Today brings a sense of joy and motivation, allowing you to handle your tasks with ease. Your vitality and confidence will support tough decision-making, leading to increased profits in the near future. A short work-related trip may be on the cards. Support from subordinates and colleagues will help you complete your responsibilities efficiently. Students are likely to stay focused, but you're advised to watch your diet to avoid stomach-related issues.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

You may feel mentally and physically drained today due to lack of sleep. A family member's health could add to your concerns. Be cautious with spending, as unnecessary expenses might affect your savings. Stay alert to hidden rivals or conspiracies in your personal or professional life.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

You'll begin the day on a positive note. At work, quick decision-making may lead to fruitful outcomes. A new source of income might emerge, boosting your financial security. With support from your partner, you may consider investing in business ventures that show long-term promise. Harmony in your domestic life will likely improve through better understanding with your spouse.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Today may be busy with professional commitments, leaving little time for family. However, with elders' blessings, job seekers may land high-ranking positions and managers might be promoted. Recognition and rewards could raise your social status. Overall, a strong performance is expected on the career front.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

A sense of inner positivity and clarity may guide your actions today. Peace of mind and strong performance will mark your day. You may plan a visit to a distant spiritual place and feel inspired to contribute to charity. Grandparents may bring good news related to the family.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

You may feel introspective or emotionally isolated today. Self-analysis might lead to thoughts of making significant changes in your personal or professional space. However, you may come across as irritable, affecting your relationships. Avoid taking part in risky activities or adventure travel.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

A productive and healthy day lies ahead. Past efforts may now result in gains, and stuck finances could be recovered, enhancing your business liquidity. Job seekers may perform well in interviews, and students could receive positive news. You may also bring home or office decor items to elevate your social image.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Today favours professional growth. You'll likely enjoy good relations with your superiors and may receive a stronger position within your organisation. However, stay alert to hidden opponents. Maintaining a disciplined routine can help prevent health issues related to lifestyle. Job seekers could find a promising opportunity.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

You may feel anxious or uncertain during the first half of the day. Use your intuition before making any business or investment decisions. Lovers should avoid making marriage-related choices today. Students will need extra focus. However, by the afternoon, with elders' blessings, the situation may stabilise and bring relief.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Today may feel unproductive. Lack of focus can delay your work and create disappointment. You're advised to be patient and avoid making big decisions. Postpone property investments or construction plans for now. Try to stay grounded until things improve.

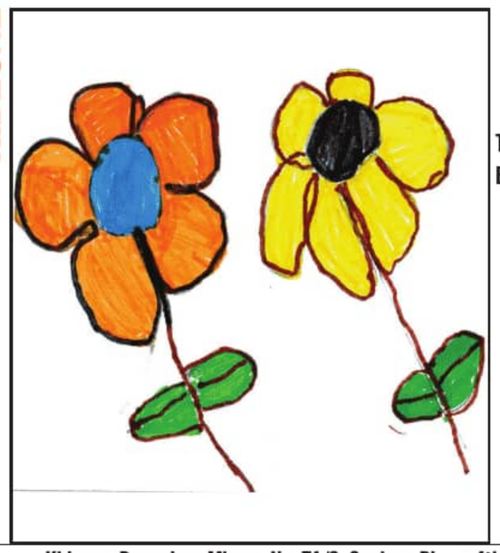
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Your efforts to help others may increase your respect within the community. You'll put in strong effort at work, potentially completing tasks ahead of schedule. Good news may come from a sibling. However, don't let excessive work drain you — manage stress through meditation or fasting for mental peace.

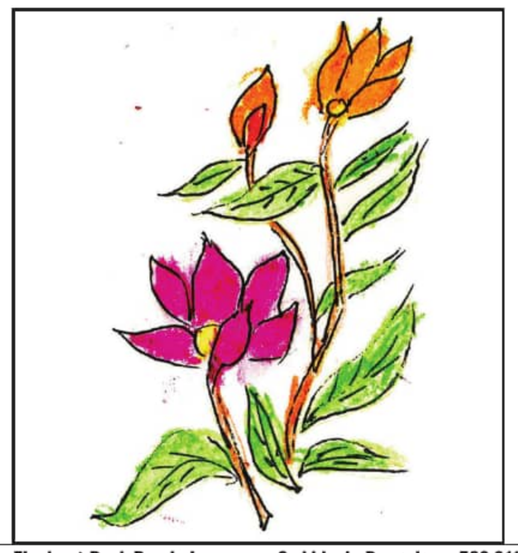
Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

You'll feel energetic and motivated today. Strong focus and work efficiency could earn praise from your superiors. Financial gains are likely in your business. Romantic opportunities may also arise, making it a promising day for love and emotional connections.

KIDZONE



Tanishka, Bengaluru



Ashiya, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M = (√(2^2 - √9 / (5^3 - 10^2))
= (√(4-3) / (125-100))
= √(1 / 25) = 1/5

QUOTE UNCODE
Sometimes we stare so long at a door that is closing that we see too late the one that is open.

BULL'S EYE
actor, aortic, APRICOT, captor, carp, cart, coat, crop, optic, pact, pica, taco, topic, tropic

FAST FIVE

S	H	U	S	H
P	A	N	T	O
O	V	A	T	E
O	L	L	A	S
R	A	Y	E	D

STRIKE OUT

A	D	D	E	R	S	■	E	S	P	R	I	T	■	■
L	■	L	■	U	T	I	L	E	■	E	■	S	■	■
A	V	A	I	L	S	■	T	W	E	L	V	E	■	■
B	■	B	■	S	A	Y	S	O	■	B	■	F	■	■
A	N	I	L	■	M	L	I	■	N	O	R	A	■	■
C	A	R	R	Y	■	D	■	G	E	N	E	S	■	■
■	G	■	I	L	L	I	C	I	T	■	D	■	■	■
T	A	N	K	S	■	B	■	F	A	G	I	N	■	■
N	E	W	S	■	T	A	R	■	O	N	C	E	■	■
E	■	O	■	A	A	R	O	N	■	I	■	S	■	■
G	U	N	N	E	D	■	D	I	S	O	W	N	■	■
O	■	E	■	V	A	G	U	E	■	O	■	A	■	■
C	O	R	P	U	S	■	T	R	U	M	A	N	■	■

QUICK

S	U	D	D	E	N	■	S	K	A	T	E	D	■	■
D	■	E	■	T	■	■	N	■	S	■	E	■	■	■
D	E	B	R	I	S	■	E	A	S	I	L	Y	■	■
A	■	B	■	M	E	R	R	Y	■	D	■	A	■	■
W	A	I	S	T	■	O	■	N	O	A	M	■	■	■
H	■	R	■	■	A	L	L	O	W	■	■	S	■	■
S	A	G	E	■	C	■	A	■	A	N	T	I	■	■
I	■	■	G	O	I	N	G	■	E	■	■	D	■	■
N	A	P	■	D	■	N	I	S	E	■	■	■	■	■
O	■	A	■	B	E	G	A	T	■	T	■	O	■	■
M	A	R	A	U	D	■	M	O	A	N	E	D	■	■
D	■	T	■	R	■	■	H	■	A	■	■	O	■	■
A	S	S	I	G	N	■	E	D	U	C	E	D	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE

5. In each row, add together the numerical values of the 3 central letters to give a 2 digit sum, and put this 2 digit sum in the left and right hand boxes at the end of the rows.

RIDDLER
(6 – 3) x 11 – 9

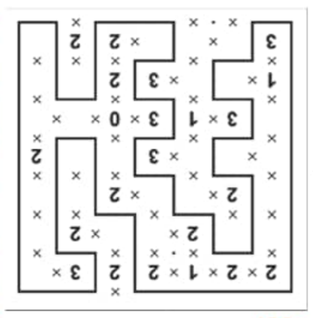
SUDOKU

9	6	7	1	8	2	4	5	3
1	8	3	4	5	6	7	9	2
4	2	5	7	3	9	1	8	6
3	5	2	8	7	4	6	1	9
6	7	9	3	2	1	8	4	5
8	1	4	6	9	5	3	2	7
2	3	8	5	1	7	9	6	4
5	4	1	9	6	3	2	7	8
7	9	6	2	4	8	5	3	1

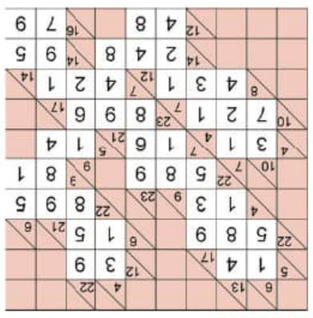
ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, An, Nab, Bans, Basin, Sinbad, Bandits.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 7 + 4 – 9 = 6
Medium
9 – 6 + 8 + 6 = 17
Hard
2 – 6 / 4 + 5 = 4

LOOP



KAKURO



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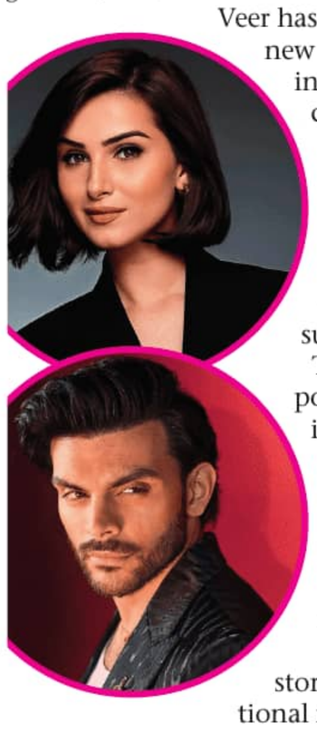
 # Royal TV
Prince Harry, Meghan and Netflix extend partnership for streaming programs

Loving nickname

Tara Sutaria has been capturing public attention recently for a variety of reasons. Her captivating on-screen pairing with Canadian rapper and singer AP Dhillon in the song "Thodi Si Daaru" put her in the spotlight. Not long after, rumours began stirring about a romance between her and Veer Pahariya, known for his role in 'Sky Force.' The pair have since been frequently seen together, delighting fans with their affectionate gestures and shared moments on social media.



Veer has even given Tara a new nickname, revealed in his most recent post celebrating her.

Sutaria and AP Dhillon's track "Thodi Si Daaru" has been soaring on the music charts, and they are clearly thrilled about its success.

The actress has been posting stories highlighting the praise from fans and supporters. At the same time, Veer is equally excited, showing his admiration for his girlfriend's hit music video.

On his Instagram story, he posted a promotional image of Tara and Dhillon, affectionately coining a new nickname for Tara that plays off the song's title. He captioned it by saying he's been looping the track repeatedly and wrote "Thodi Si Taru" alongside a martini glass and winking face emoji, linking "Daaru" with "Taru" in a fun rhyme.

Overjoyed, Tara responded with "Thodi Si Taruuuu" and added a red heart and laughing emoji to her reply. The relationship between Tara and Veer seems to be out in the open now. They have been spotted together numerous times lately, whether attending major events or enjoying more private moments. During a recent open-hearted interview with Ranveer Allahbadia on his podcast, Tara couldn't hide her happiness when asked about her relationship.

–ETimes

MOM JOKES

Kiara has a witty and touching take on motherhood

Kiara Advani is enjoying her new journey into motherhood with love, gratitude, and a dash of relatable humour. Just weeks after welcoming her first child with husband Sidharth Malhotra, the actress shared a sweet late-night Instagram story that many parents will relate to. Her post was all about the adorable side of being a new mom.

Kiara took to social media to give a glimpse of what motherhood truly means. She reshared a post, "I change your diapers, you change my world. Fair trade."

The 'Shershah' stars who tied the knot in February 2023 welcomed their baby girl on July 15, 2025. Since then, the couple has been flooded with love and blessings from fans and fellow Bollywood stars.

In a heartfelt gesture, Kiara and Sidharth distributed sweets to photographers along with a note announcing their daughter's arrival. The message read, "Our baby girl is here! Just a little something sweet to celebrate this special moment. No pictures please, only blessings."

The 'SOTY' actor had shared, "We're so grateful for all the love and wishes; our hearts are truly full. As we take our first steps into this new journey of parenthood, we hope to enjoy it intimately as a family. It would mean a lot to us if this special time could stay private. So, No Photos Please, Only Blessings!"

While Kiara Advani is cherishing her new life as a mom, she also has an exciting professional moment coming up with the release of 'War 2' on August 14. For now, though, her most special role is the one she's playing at home as a loving mother.

–ETimes

Cameo challenge

Rising talent Siddharth Sibal continues to assert his presence as a versatile and magnetic performer with a series of compelling cameo appearances on some of television's most acclaimed shows such as Bade Achhe Lagte Hain, Pyar Ki Rahien, and Wagle Ki Duniya.

"Whether it's a five-minute scene or a full-fledged arc, my approach remains rooted in preparation and truth," Siddharth shares. "Facing off with Harshad Chopda was incredibly thrilling, it was pure adrenaline on set. I find cameos to be creatively rewarding; they allow me to inhabit new characters and challenge myself in unexpected ways," he said.

'She taught me about perseverance'

Actress Jamie Lee Curtis has heaped praise on her Freakier Friday co-star Lindsay Lohan and said that she taught her about 'perseverance'.

The 66-year-old actress has reunited with Lindsay for Freakier Friday, the sequel to their 2003 comedy movie Freaky Friday, and Lee Cutis has taken to social media to heap praise on her co-star.

Her Instagram post featured a quote from Lindsay in which she praises her co-star. The caption read: "Jamie was with me at a time in my life when I was going through a lot publicly …I have to feel safe around people. And Jamie is one of those people for me."

In response to the quote, Jamie wrote in the caption: "And SHE taught me about perseverance, solitude, style, family and Bitmoji! (sic)"

Lohan and Lee Curtis have repeatedly praised each other throughout the Freakier Friday press tour.

The veteran star recently admitted that she felt "tremendous maternal care" for Lohan after they starred together in Freaky Friday, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The Hollywood star told the Guardian newspaper: "I felt tremendous maternal care for Lindsay after the first movie, and continued to feel that. When she'd come to Los Angeles, I would see her. She and I have remained friends, and now we're sort of colleagues."

–IANS

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Release deferred

The mega success of Su from So (Sulochana from Someshwara) has made producers and directors of some Kannada films to defer the release of their movies by a few weeks.

Recently, veteran director Om Sai Prakash announced the postponement of his movie September 10 that was supposed to arrive in theatres on August 8. Now, the release of one more film – Love Matteru – is postponed. The movie was supposed to release on August 1 but is rescheduled for August 22.

Viraata Bilwa, director-cum-hero of Love Matteru, said producer Vandana Priya wanted to release the movie on August 1 but postponed it due to non-availability of theatres. "We have no complaint against exhibitors for not allocating theatres for screening Love Matteru. We do not want to be a hurdle for a Kannada movie that is being screened successfully. It is our responsibility to encourage and support Kannada movies. Movie theatres occupancy was very poor till recently. Now, audiences began watching Kannada movies at theaters, said Bilwa.

Teaser unveiled

Dinesh, who earned fame for playing Suri in the movie Salaga, is all set to debut as a hero in Sandalwood with Suri Anna. The team of Suri Anna organised a function to unveil the movie's teaser. Retired police officer SK Umesh, Lahari Velu, HM Krishnamurthy, P. Murthy, Gadda Naga, Zeebra, Lakshmi Anna, and Srirampura Motte Kanna have graced the function.

Thanking all the guests, Suri Anna expressed gratitude to his parents and brother Vijay for their cooperation to bankroll the movie. "Kannada audiences support movies based on rowdies. My movie Suri Anna is also based on rowdies but it conveys a message to society, especially for youth, on the disadvantages of anti-social activities. It encourages youth to give importance to their families. My original name is Dinesh. I became Suri Anna after the movie Salaga," he said.

Cockroach Sudhi, who plays a key character in the movie, said the movie conveys a much-needed message to society. "The movie attempts to create awareness among youth on the importance of leading a decent life," he said.